

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0795

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJ: PROPOSED FOOD SECURITY SCHEME PROGRAM FOR TANZANIA

1. PETER NEWHOUSE, FAO/UNDP, ON A VISIT FROM DAR ES SALAAM AND A MEMBER OF FAO ROME FOOD SECURITY OFFICE ASKED FOR MEETING TO BRING FODAG/AID OFFICER UP-TO -DATE ON PROPOSED FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM FOR TANZANIA. OBVIOUS PURPOSE WAS TO PURSUE INITIATIVE STARTED IN DAR TO ENLIST U.S.SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM. UNDERSTAND DIRECTOR GENERAL SOON WILL SEND LETTER TO U.S.AND OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS ASKING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME. PRESUMABLE SIMILAR INITIATIVE BEING TAKEN IN DAR BUT ACCORDING TO NEWHOUSE THE GOT HAS ASKED FAO TO BE THE SPEARHEAD IN SECURING AND COORDINATING PARTICIPATION FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS.

2. THE FOOD SECURITY PLAN IS BASED ON THE REPORT OF AN FAO MISSION WHICH EMPHASIZED SIX MAJOR AREAS IN WHICH ACTION IS URGENT:

- A) FORMATION OF A NATIONAL GRAIN RESERVE,
- B) IMPROVEMENT OF GRAIN STORAGE FACILITIES,
- C) REORGANIZATION AND STRENGTHENING CROP MONITORING AND MARKETING INFORMATION SYSTEM,
- D) SOUND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT SCHEME FOR THE RESERVES
- E) EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP MANAGE THE RESERVES
- F) IMPROVEMENT OF SORGHUM AND MILLET PRODUCTION INDROUGHT PRONE AREAS. TOTAL PROGRAM IS PROPOSED FOR FOUR YEARS AT A COST OF SOME DLR 50 MILLION, INCLUDING SORGHUM/MILLET PRODUCTION ASPECTS.

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3. OF THE VARIOUS COUNTRY FOOD SECURITY PLANS DEVELOPED SINCE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AND SUBSEQUENT FORMATION OF THE FOOD SECURITY COMMITTEE AND THE FOOD SECURITY SCHEME IN FAO, TANZANIA PROBABLY IS ONE OF THE MOST PROMISING. IF FULL REPORT IS NOT YET AVAILABLE IN AID/WN SUMMARY IS INCLUDED IN INFORMATION NOTE NO.2 FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE SCHEME SENT 10/AGR 18 OCTOBER.

4 . SPECIFICS ON PROPOSED U.S.ROLE, TO THE EXTENT DEFINED, PROBABLY HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED BY AMEMBASSY DAR. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE MAIN ELEMENT WOULD BE INFORM OF PL 480 TITLE I CORN, AND IT MAY BE THAT THE 60,000 TONS INCLUDED IN USDA NEW S RELEASE OF SEPTEMBER 22 (INITIAL FY 1977 COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS) CAN SERVE THAT PURPOSE. THIS ALSO APPEARS TO BE AN EXCELLENT CASE FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE LOAN FORGIVENESS FEATURE OF THE REVISED LEGISLATION.VOLPE

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